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FROM: CIA/OCI

TO : WHITE HOUSE HYANNIS

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FOLLOWING IS PRELIMINARY CIA/OCI ANALYSIS OF EAST GERMAN RESTRICTIONS ON TRAVEL TO WEST BERLIN:

ON 13 AUGUST THE EAST GERMAN REGIME ANNOUNCED AND PUT INTO EFFECT A SERIES OF DECREES INTRODUCING SEVERE NEW CONTROL MEASURES DESIGNED TO STOP IMMEDIATELY THE FLOW OF REFUGEES TO WEST BERLIN AND WEST GERMANY. THESE STEPS WERE ANNOUNCED BY THE EAST GERMANS AS HAVING BEEN TAKEN IN RESPONSE TO A PROPOSAL BY THE WARSAW PACT NATIONS, PUBLISHED ON 13 AUGUST, WHICH IN EFFECT CALLED UPON THE EAST GERMAN REGIME TO INTRODUCE EFFECTIVE CONTROLS AROUND WEST BERLIN; IT IS HIGHLY UNUSUAL FOR THE WARSAW PACT TO DEVOTE ITS ATTENTION TO

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PAGE 2

THE SPECIFIC DOMESTIC PROBLEMS OF A MEMBER NATION.

ACCORDING TO THE NEW DECREES SPECIAL POLICE PERMITS, OBTAINABLE FROM LOCAL POLICE OFFICES, WILL BE REQUIRED FOR ALL EAST GERMANS AND EAST BERLINERS WHO WANT TO GO TO WEST BERLIN AND THESE PERMITS WILL HAVE TO BE PRESENTED AT ONE OF 13 SPECIFIED SECTOR CROSSING POINTS BETWEEN EAST AND WEST BERLIN. APPROXIMATELY 90 PERCENT OF THE EAST GERMAN REFUGEES IN RECENT WEEKS HAVE CROSSED INTO WEST BERLIN OVER THE SECTOR BORDER. IT WAS ALSO DECREED THAT ALL EAST BERLINERS AND EAST GERMANS WORKING IN WEST BERLIN COULD NO LONGER CONTINUE TO WORK THERE.

THE DECREES ARE VERY SPECIFIC IN MAKING CLEAR THAT THERE ARE NO CHANGES IN THE EXISTING REGULATIONS AFFECTING THE TRANSIT RIGHTS OF THE THREE WESTERN POWERS BETWEEN WEST GERMANY AND EAST BERLIN, OF WEST GERMANS TRAVELLING BETWEEN WEST GERMANY AND WEST BERLIN, AND OF WEST GERMANS AND WEST BERLINERS TRAVELLING TO EAST BERLIN AND EAST GERMANY.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NEW DECREES IS BOUND TO INCREASE THE ALREADY HIGH POPULAR TENSIONS IN EAST GERMANY WHICH ARE REFLECTED IN THE ABNORMALLY LARGE REFUGEE FIGURES FOR 11 AUGUST OF OVER 2,300 AND FOR 12 AUGUST OF OVER 2,400. IF, AS SEEMS LIKELY,

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PAGE 3 WTE 5

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THE NEW CONTROLS ARE RIGOROUSLY ENFORCED, THE LIKELIHOOD IS SHARPLY INCREASED OF SPONTANEOUS OUTBREAKS IN EAST BERLIN AND EAST GERMANY OF LOCAL DISTURBANCES SUCH AS STRIKES, RIOTS AND ANTI-REGIME ACTIVITIES. ~~(SECRET)~~

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